

maries were followed, some aspects of some infections escaped attention. These oversights are minor, even insignificant, deficiencies, completely submerged in the general high quality of the book. The illustrations are numerous and illustrative; the index (52 pages) is invaluable. The authors have set an excellent example in this index; the listings are logical and its coverage of the text is complete. Equally welcome to any physician or public health worker in the tropics are the descriptions of carefully selected and fully proven diagnostic laboratory procedures essential in tropical medicine. Any physician reading this manual will receive a good introduction to the ecology of human disease under the impact of environmental provocative factors.

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**THE THYROID—A Physiological, Pathological, Clinical and Surgical Study.** T. Levitt, M.A., F.R.C.S.(Eng.), F.R.C.S.(Ed.), F.R.C.S.I., Hunterian Professor of the Royal College of Surgeons. E. & S. Livingstone, Ltd., London. Distributed through Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, 1954. 606 pages, \$20.00.

This volume is written to elaborate upon and attempt to substantiate the author's hypothesis that "abnormalities of the thyroid gland are not isolated diseases, but are phases in an evolving continuum." He has found it expedient to describe six progressive phases of the toxic gland, as follows: (1) epithelial hyperplasia, (2) lymphoepithelial hyperplasia, (3) focal lymphoid hyperplasia, (4) diffuse lymphoid hyperplasia, (5) fibrolymphoid hyperplasia, (6) fibrosis.

With such a purpose and with a new classification, it is not surprising that the arrangement of the subject matter is novel. The reviewer, however, found the book difficult to read because of awkward wording, unclear concepts, and particularly because many statements of controversial nature are offered as fact with little or no qualification. The volume is profusely and beautifully illustrated in color as well as in black and white. In actual fact, the volume becomes more a text than an elaboration of an hypothesis, because it includes a discussion of all phases of thyroidology, from physiological considerations to surgical technique, albeit with the author's personal orientation. The special student of thyroid disease may find the book of interest because of its photography and the style of presentation, but the book is not recommended as a textbook for the medical student or general practitioner.

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**FRENCH'S INDEX OF DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS—Seventh Edition.** Arthur H. Douthwaite, M.D., Senior Physician, Guy's Hospital; Honorary Physician, All Saints' Hospital for Genito-Urinary Diseases. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1954. 1046 pages, 731 illustrations, 200 in color, \$20.00.

When the reviewer was a student, French's *Index of Differential Diagnosis* commanded a degree of awe and admiration which gave it an almost biblical quality. Since that time, physiological and etiological concepts have replaced the descriptive clinical patterns which French so diligently and comprehensively gathered into the *Index of Differential Diagnosis*, and other books have helped to civilize the wilderness into which French so bravely pioneered.

This is the first edition edited by Dr. A. A. Douthwaite. It has been completely revised or rewritten and has a number of new contributors. It has likewise been pruned to produce a more compact work; and much obsolete material has been weeded out and replaced. The indexing is still excellent.

However, the reviewer feels that a good deal remains to be done to give the book the status it once commanded. There is still too much retention of some of the older terms and concepts. (For example, Napkin Region Eruptions—applied

to infants and adults alike—requires a dictionary to set the American student straight.) There are not nearly enough tables of differential diagnosis and many of those present should be more inclusive. There are many excellent illustrations, a number of which are in color, but also quite a few which could well have been relegated to the limbo of the first or second edition.

To sum it up, too much of the book may be epitomized by the discussion on menorrhagia (pages 469-472): There is the usual definition and differentiation from metrorrhagia and methostaxis. There is the inclusive tabulation of the causes, divided into four categories. Then the contributor makes the revealing summary statement: "Since the discovery of the ovarian hormones and their activator the anterior pituitary gland, our conceptions of the causes of excessive menstrual loss have undergone considerable changes. It is a question whether some of the causes given in the above list should not be discarded, ovarian dysfunction being the true underlying cause."

Regardless of all this, the reviewer feels that there is a place for the *Index of Differential Diagnosis* on the reference shelf of medical libraries and as a one-volume consultant to be at the elbow of the medical practitioner. He recommends it for such purposes.

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**RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY OF THE EYELIDS—2nd Edition.** Wendell L. Hughes, M.D., F.A.C.S., Hempstead, N. Y., The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1954. 260 pages, 268 illustrations, \$8.50.

This book, now in its second edition, is very worthwhile for ophthalmic as well as plastic surgeons. The book deals with historical data as well as present-day techniques. There are 210 pages of subject matter followed by a very extensive list of reference works.

There is a definite need for this type of book because not only is lid reconstruction cosmetic but must be done properly to protect and preserve the integrity of the eyeball. It is essential that this type of surgery not be attempted without proper knowledge of the subject.

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**WINE AS FOOD AND MEDICINE.** Salvatore P. Lucia, A.B., M.D., Sc.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Medicine, U. C. School of Medicine. The Blakiston Company, Inc., New York, 1954. 149 pages, \$3.00.

An extremely interesting and worthwhile book describing the value of the *temperate* use of wine as a food and as a therapeutic agent. Its effect upon the psyche and various organ systems is thoroughly discussed. There is an extensive bibliography.

The scientific accuracy of the book is slightly impaired by reference to many experimental studies which are obsolete and to unsupported opinions from old writings.

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**ENDEMIC GOITER—The Adaptation of Man to Iodine Deficiency.** John B. Stanbury, M.D., Gordon L. Brownell, Ph.D., Douglas S. Riggs, M.D., and Hector Perinetti, M.D., Juan Itoiz, Ph.D., Enrique B. Del Castillo, M.D. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1954. 209 pages, \$4.00.

This is a fascinating and well-written account of the fundamental nature of endemic (iodine deficient) goiter. The authors have described their studies upon goitrous patients living on the Mendoza slopes of the Argentine Andes, an area known to be deficient in iodine. Such a study might never have been possible had not a team of American workers cooperated with Argentine physicians and officials and completed the study just prior to the introduction of iodized salt for goiter prophylaxis. Following a very interesting account of the locale of the study and a

description of the clinical material, the work proceeds to discussions of the metabolism of iodine, physiological principles governing thyroid function, and newer methods of evaluating thyroid function, including application of isotope techniques.

The investigation of the Mendoza subjects is reported in considerable detail and includes observations of the effects of treatment with iodine, thyroid, antithyroid drugs, and thyrotropin.

Summaries and useful bibliographies are included at the end of each chapter, and a final summary chapter serves as a useful review and outlines areas of suggested research.

This book is a classic in its field and is destined to remain an outstanding reference source in the fields of endocrinology and metabolism for many years to come. It can be highly recommended to interested medical students, practicing physicians, endocrinologists, biophysicists, and biochemists.

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**PEDIATRIC PROBLEMS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE—Special Medical and Psychological Aspects.** H. Michal-Smith, Ph.D., Editor, Research Associate in Pediatrics, New York Medical College, Chief Clinical Psychologist, Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospital, Grune & Stratton, New York, 1954. 310 pages, \$5.50.

The special types of problems dealt with in this book are those of the child who is emotionally disturbed, schizophrenic, mentally retarded, brain-injured, orthopedically handicapped, allergic, diabetic, epileptic, tubercular, or handicapped for cardiac reasons or by cerebral palsy. Each such child has a chapter devoted to him, written by one of the 13 contributors to the volume. The author has written an interesting chapter on the mentally retarded child. Other contributors include Arnold Gesell, Laretta Bender, Priscilla White, William Lennox, Bret Ratner, Winthrop Phelps and several others.

The volume should make a useful addition to the library of those pediatricians or other physicians dealing with children handicapped by the problems mentioned.

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**SYNOPSIS OF ANESTHESIA, A—3rd Edition.** J. Alfred Lee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.M.S.A., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., Consultant Anesthetist to the Southend-on-Sea Hospital, etc. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1953. 483 pages, \$3.50.

This book is essentially a compendium of knowledge in the field of anesthesiology. As such, it fills a great need in the library of the expert, occasional and resident anesthesiologist in providing accurate surveys in outline and short discussion form the basic information required to understand the ever-broadening field of anesthesiology. A great deal of reference material is cited for further reading; of necessity the bulk of the material so listed is from foreign journals. Most of these are, however, available in any library maintained by local medical societies.

A great many of the chapters have been enlarged and expanded from the second edition of this book and two short chapters have been added; one on the reduction of bleeding during operations and the other on the therapeutic aspects of anesthesia. These are short but packed with information.

Of minor nuisance value is the continued use of a nomenclature common to the British Isles. American synonyms are included frequently enough to prevent complete bewilderment, but it would be of great assistance to refer to body weight in "pounds" rather than the more unfamiliar and cumbersome "stone." A great many pages are devoted to the description and operation of English apparatus not likely to be found in this country. Aside from these minor

faults which can be quickly omitted without great loss of time, this book contains more information of an accurate nature than any other we have found.

The chapters on anatomy, physiology and pharmacology are gems and the precision and thoroughness of their presentation can well make some larger, more pretentious textbooks blush for shame.

On the whole, the book is stimulating and as complete as an expanded outline can be. We heartily recommend it to anyone working or interested in the field of anesthesiology.

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**MODERN TRENDS IN DERMATOLOGY (Second Series).** Edited by R. M. B. MacKenna, M.A., M.D.(Camb.), F.R.C.P.(Lond.), Physician in Charge, Dermatological Department, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., New York, 1954. 338 pages, \$12.00.

This book is as outstanding as the first edition. Seventeen separate essays by seventeen authors review and bring up-to-date important developments in the field of dermatology.

Chapter I presents a scholarly presentation of ecology in relationship to dermatology. Chapter II, in a critical evaluation of psychosomatic medicine in relationship to dermatology, is the best review of this subject which has appeared in years. Haserick's chapter on the blood factors in lupus erythematosus is beautifully illustrated and clearly written. New developments such as cyto diagnosis in dermatology, the pathogenesis of tinea capitis and beta-ray therapy are handled in a scholarly fashion.

A book of this sort is extremely useful in the sense of a complete, up-to-date, interpretative view of the modern trends which may have escaped the attention of one who does not have an opportunity to read widely the medical journals of the world.

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**DERMATOLOGIC MEDICATIONS.** Marguerite Rush Lerner, M.D., Resident, Department of Dermatology, and Aaron Bunsen Lerner, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Dermatology, University of Oregon Medical School, Portland. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois, Chicago, 1954. 183 pages, \$3.00.

This is a handbook intended as a reference for students and busy practitioners who desire useful and up-to-date information on dermatologic therapeutics.

The publication is divided into two sections: therapeutic agents, and treatment regimens. In the first section, commonly used agents are discussed as to indications, chemical structure, mode of action in skin disease, and application. In the second section, therapeutic regimens are outlined for various common dermatoses.

By limiting the information to a practical basis, the authors have succeeded in limiting the size of the volume, yet it is surprisingly complete.

This handbook can be recommended to students and busy practitioners, regardless of specialty, who are interested in skin disease.

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**HANDBOOK ON DISEASES OF CHILDREN—Including Dietetics and the Common Fevers—7th Edition.** Bruce Williamson, M.D. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), Physician, Children's Department, Royal Northern Hospital. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd.; distributed in U.S.A. by Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, 1953. 467 pages, \$5.00.

This Handbook on Diseases of Children is in its seventh edition. Appearing first in 1933, it has been periodically revised. Many of the viewpoints expressed are not in conformity with current American thinking. It should be more popular among the older practitioners of the British Empire than with recent graduates from schools of this country.